provisions of Acts/Rules.

**Electric Trolleif Buses profect in Delhi**

590. SHRt KRIPAL PARMAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Electric Trolley Buses are proposed to be Imported from Russia for DTC in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether routes have been identified for the purpose; and

(d) by when the proposed project would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI 0, RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In about one to three years.

**Private participation for urban infrastructure development**

591. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH :
DR.T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought wider private participation to meet Rs. 17,000 crore fund shortage for urban infrastructure development in the country;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has stated that Government, States and local bodies have been able to provide only Rs. 5,000 crore for developing urban infrastructure facilities; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to meet the shortage of fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) the issue of Public-Private Partnership for urban infrastructure development was discussed at the Conference of Ministers of Urban Deveioprneni. Local Self Government & Housing of States/Union Territories held at New Delhi on 12.9.2002.

As per the India Infrastiucture Report brought oui and published in 1996 by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). New Delhi, the investment required for urban infrastructure (water supply, sanitation and roads) is Rs. 28,036 crores per year on an average during 1996-2006. It assessed availability of funds in 1995 as approximately Rs. 5,000 crores (tor water supply & sanitation only).

In order to bridge the resource gap the Government has initiated reform measures In tho development of urban infrastructure. Three new tools, namely. Urban Reforms Incentive Fund, City Challenge Fund and State Pooled Finance Devclopmctnt Fund have boon proposetJ in the Finance Minister's budget speech of 2002-03 In order to makfe cities creditworthy for accessing capital market and also ensuring private sector participation.

**Investments by HUDCO**

592. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN;
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whelKer Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item whioh appeared in the Economic Timer., d&;ed 10*" October, 2002 regarding investments being made by Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) in companies with doubtful ability to repay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVFRTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being gathered.